

CINEPLEX

MAGAZINE

ICE QUEEN

Margot Robbie

TALKS FIGURE
SKATING,
PLAYING
HOCKEY AND
I, TONYA

INSIDE:
2018
MOVIE
PREVIEW!

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Imagine a movie based on the life of disgraced Olympic skater Tonya Harding and comedy may not be the first genre that comes to mind. But the team behind *I, Tonya* saw the potential for laughs and social commentary. Here the film's star and producer **Margot Robbie** explains how their unconventional film took shape
BY MARNI WEISZ

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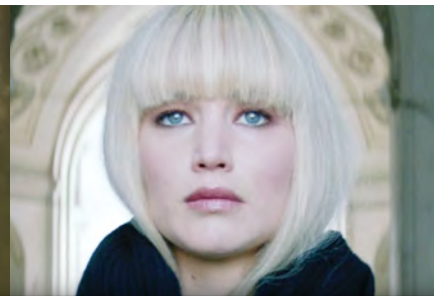
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A new year has just begun. What cinematic treasures does it hold? Read our **2018 Movie Preview** to find out what you'll be watching over the next 12 months
BY INGRID RANDOJA





SKATING THE TRUTH

I wonder if the narrative structure used in *I, Tonya* is the only one that truly makes sense for a movie that's "based on a true story."

In crafting his surprisingly funny bio-pic of disgraced American figure skater Tonya Harding — best known for her possible involvement, along with ex-husband Jeff Gillooly, in having her arch rival Nancy Kerrigan whacked across the knee — screenwriter Steven Rogers spent hours interviewing Harding about the event. But he realized he was only getting one side of the story so tracked down Gillooly and asked him to recall the same events.

As Rogers told the *Los Angeles Times*, "Their stories were so wildly different, they didn't remember anything the same."

He then wrote a script that's an amalgam of both narratives, often punctuated by a character (inevitably the one who comes off poorly in that scene) looking straight into the camera and lamenting, "That's not how it happened."

Love it. For me, more important than drawing from both sides of the story is the way the movie breaks the "fourth wall," that invisible barrier between actor and viewer, periodically reminding us we're just watching a movie.

That's important. I'm often left feeling uneasy after watching a movie "based on a true story." Not that we shouldn't have them, some of the best films are rooted in truth and history, including four of the past 10 Best Picture Oscar winners — *Spotlight*, *12 Years a Slave*, *Argo* and *The King's Speech*.

It's just that we should be better trained in how to watch them. Do any amount of research after seeing a reality-based film and you'll come up with myriad ways the story was changed, things they got wrong, or important details that were omitted (*I, Tonya* is no different).

Yet we walk out of these films thinking we know exactly what happened, even what was said in a room that had no tape recorder and no one taking notes. We feel educated and more knowledgeable for having seen them, and we are. But we shouldn't take them as gospel. Instead, we should see them as what they are — movies.

Funny thing about *I, Tonya* is that the best thing about the film — that it's a *ton* of fun — is probably the least accurate thing about it in terms of what Harding and Gillooly must have been going through at the time.

Read "On Thin Ice," page 36, our interview with the film's star and co-producer **Margot Robbie** about not only playing Harding, but also meeting her, and the nearly complete lack of control Harding had over the film once her interview was done.

Elsewhere in this issue, **Donald Sutherland** tells us about hitting the road with Helen Mirren for *The Leisure Seeker* (page 28), we talk to **Dylan O'Brien** about finishing the final *Maze Runner* movie, *The Death Cure*, a year after an on-set accident brought production to a halt (page 32), and we take a look at some of the most exciting movies of the year in our **2018 Movie Preview** (page 40).

■ **MARNI WEISZ**, EDITOR

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Cineplex Magazine™ is published 11 times a year by Cineplex Entertainment. Subscriptions are \$34.50 (\$30 + HST) a year in Canada, \$45 a year in the U.S. and \$55 a year overseas. Single copies are \$3. Back issues are \$6. All subscription inquiries, back issue requests and letters to the editor should be directed to *Cineplex Magazine* at 102 Atlantic Ave., Toronto, ON, M6K 1X9, or 416.539.8800; or cineplexmagazine@cineplex.com

Publications Mail Agreement No. 41619533. Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: *Cineplex Magazine*, 102 Atlantic Ave., Toronto, ON, M6K 1X9

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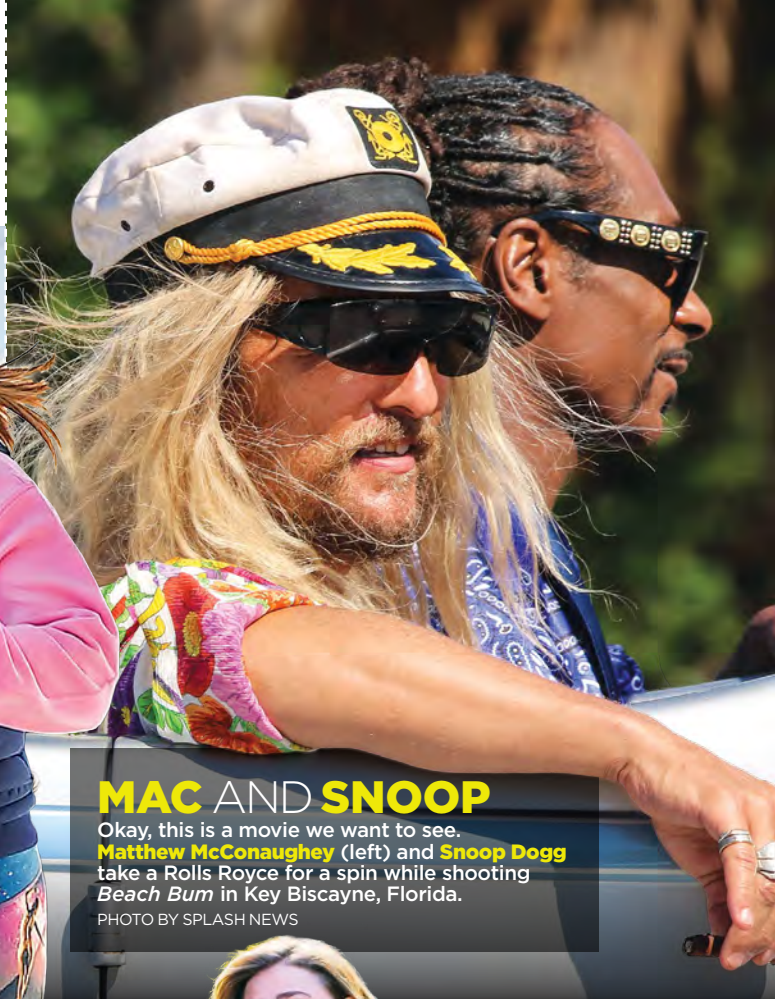
SNAPS



RUNNER'S HIGH

Vanessa Hudgens (left) and **Jennifer Lopez** run through New York's Lower East Side while shooting a scene for *Second Act*.

PHOTO BY JOSIAH KAMAU/GETTY



MAC AND SNOOP

Okay, this is a movie we want to see. **Matthew McConaughey** (left) and **Snoop Dogg** take a Rolls Royce for a spin while shooting *Beach Bum* in Key Biscayne, Florida.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



WE LIKE THE BIKE

Is it just us, or does **Chloë Grace Moretz** ride a bike in a lot of her films? Here she cycles on cobblestone (not easy) while shooting *The Widow* in New York City.

PHOTO BY JACKSON LEE/GETTY



BLACK DIVES IN

Jack Black pretends to dive into a fake puddle at a photocall for *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle* in Kapolei, Hawaii.

PHOTO BY DARRYL OUMI/GETTY



NEW LOOK FOR LIVELY

Fashion maven **Blake Lively** adopts a different look on *The Rhythm Section's* Dublin set. She plays a woman who goes undercover to find the people who killed her family.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



BATCH WITH A PATCH

Benedict Cumberbatch shoots the mini-series *Melrose* on a Glasgow street that's been made to look like New York. He plays aristocratic playboy Patrick Melrose.

PHOTO BY ANDREW MILLIGAN/GETTY



IN LEAGUE TOGETHER

Superhero pals, from left, **Ezra Miller**, **Jason Momoa**, **Gal Gadot** and **Ben Affleck**, goof around at a photocall for *Justice League*.

PHOTO BY KARWAI TANG/GETTY



REESE WITH HER SPOON

Reese Witherspoon enjoys a cup of tea at the Tiffany & Co. Holiday Breakfast.

PHOTO BY JAMIE MCCARTHY/GETTY



HAVING A BALL

John Cena was in Australia to promote *Ferdinand* (he voices the bull) when he tried his hand at cricket. Word is, he wasn't very good.

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IN BRIEF



Annette Bening in
*Film Stars Don't
Die in Liverpool*
INSET: Gloria Grahame
as Violet

A Wonderful LIFE?

With Christmas still visible in our rearview mirror, chances are good you've watched *It's A Wonderful Life* in the past month.

Remember Violet, the sassy and seductive blonde who had a crush on Jimmy Stewart's George Bailey? George helped her escape Bedford Falls with a loan after she'd tarnished her reputation in the small town.

Well, Violet was played by the sassy and seductive Gloria Grahame, whose complicated real-life story you can see in this month's *Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool*, with Annette Bening in the lead role. The film details Grahame's final few years as, now in her 50s, she struggles to find work (nearly 30 years after winning an Oscar for *The Bad and the Beautiful*) and falls for a much younger man (Jamie Bell) who helps her deal with cancer and loneliness.

Bening and producer Barbara Broccoli have been talking about making this movie together for years but Bening's fascination with Grahame dates back even further.

When Bening was making her 1990 breakout film *The Grifters* director Stephen Frears suggested she go back and watch some of Grahame's films. *The Grifters* — in which Bening played a sexy con artist — had a noir-ish feel, as did many of Grahame's movies, and Bening's character, Myra Langtry, ended up speaking in a flirty voice, just like Violet and many of Grahame's other characters. —MW



Chris Hemsworth

On Home Turf: BAD TIMES AT THE EL ROYALE

Chris Hemsworth and Jeff Bridges are on their way to Vancouver to shoot writer-director Drew Goddard's *Bad Times at the El Royale*. Filming starts at the end of January and isn't expected to wrap up until April.

The Canadian city stands in for Lake Tahoe, California, in this intriguing project, but transforming the location shouldn't be too much work as most of the movie takes place in and around a single dilapidated hotel.

This is just Goddard's second movie behind the camera after 2012's celebrated horror *The Cabin in the Woods*, which also starred Hemsworth and was also shot in B.C. —MW ▶



THE ART OF FILM

Like something you see here? Want it turned into a mug, T-shirt, set of sheets or a tote bag? You're in luck, because Seattle, Washington, artist Olga Shvartsur's paintings of pop-culture icons are available as a variety of fashion and household items. Just follow the links at her website olechkadesign.com. Here, clockwise from top, you see a portrait of Audrey Hepburn, Kate McKinnon's brilliant Jillian Holtzmann from *Ghostbusters* and a deranged Nicolas Cage in *Vampire's Kiss*. In terms of sales Shvartsur says, "Out of the three paintings, Nic Cage is the most popular one," but we're guessing McKinnon may catch up one day. —MW



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SCARY GOOD

Imagine this guy greeting you in your foyer.

The artists behind studioADI, one of Hollywood's premiere creature-effects companies, are offering a line of six limited-edition, fine-art pieces inspired by the models they created for the *Alien* films.

This handsome fella is the "Newborn Alien Design Maquette" from *Alien: Resurrection*. Sort of. The urethane resin, hand-painted sculpture is actually based on an early version of an *Alien: Resurrection* monster, rather than the one that finally made it to screen. Fans may notice his body is thinner and frailer than in the movie, and his eyes are smaller.

There are only 100 of these guys being made, and each one goes for \$2,000 U.S. Go to studioadi.bigcartel.com to see if there are any left and peruse the rest of the collection. —MW



In the *Fade*'s Diane Kruger and Rafael Santana

Kruger's HOME-MADE MOVIE

It's hard to believe it's taken more than 30 films for German actor Diane Kruger to make her first fully German film.

Kruger, who was born Diane Heidkrüger in Algermissen, Lower Saxony, Germany, in 1976, stars as Katja Sekerci, whose Kurdish husband and their son are killed by neo-Nazis in this month's *In the Fade*, or *Aus dem Nichts*.

Kruger won Best Actress at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival for her performance.

Although Kruger has spoken some German in a few movies, including 2009's *Inglourious Basterds*, this is the first time she's taken a fully German role in a German film. Interestingly, Kruger is also fluent in French and is as active in French cinema as she is in Hollywood.

In the Fade hits theatres January 19th.



100 YEARS AGO

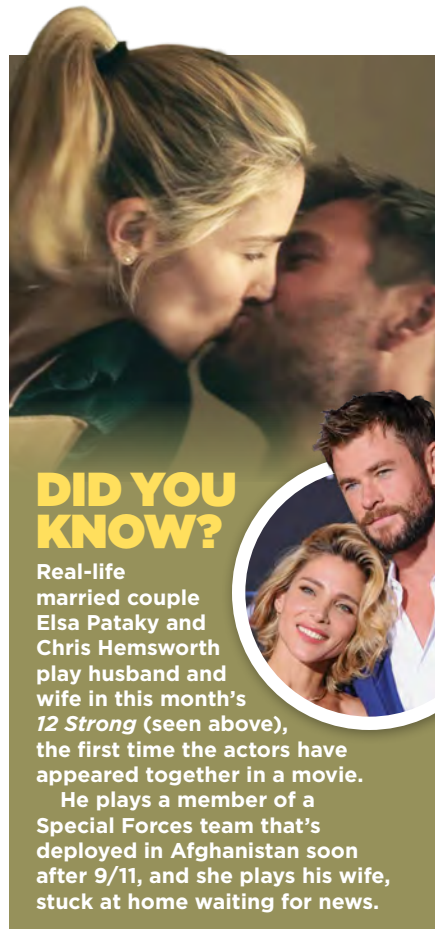
That's Elmo Lincoln as Tarzan and Enid Markey as Jane in this image from the very first Tarzan movie, *Tarzan of the Apes*, which was released 100 years ago this month, on January 27th, 1918.



Have you checked out NFL Sundays at Cineplex theatres? Liked it? We thought so. What's not to like about watching key gridiron matchups on the big screen with snacks and friends?

So now's the time to think about reserving seats for Super Bowl LII, which will be shown in 50 Cineplex theatres on Super Bowl Sunday — February 4th. And, like the regular season and playoff games, tickets are just \$5 each.

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INSET PHOTO BY BARRY KING/GETTY

DID YOU KNOW?

Real-life married couple Elsa Pataky and Chris Hemsworth play husband and wife in this month's *12 Strong* (seen above), the first time the actors have appeared together in a movie.

He plays a member of a Special Forces team that's deployed in Afghanistan soon after 9/11, and she plays his wife, stuck at home waiting for news.



Quote Unquote

Everything that children love is there in this film. And on top of that it's endearing, the whole philosophy... let's look for the best in people. **I found it touching. In my old age I cry a lot, and I cried a lot watching the film.**

HUGH GRANT ON *PADDINGTON 2*. HE PLAYS THE VILLAIN, STAGE ACTOR PHOENIX BUCHANAN



Western TRIP

Some roles you just can't shake.

For actor Adam Beach, one of those roles is Native warrior Black Hawk in director Scott Cooper's (*Out of the Furnace*) Western *Hostiles*, starring Christian Bale, Rosamund Pike and Wes Studi.

"I'm the son of Wes Studi's character, Chief Yellow Hawk," says Beach on the line from his home in Florida. "He's a well-known Cheyenne chief and he's dying, and the [U.S.] President has allowed him to die in his homeland. We're prisoners, and we're led back home by Christian Bale."

Bale portrays an Army captain who despises Native Americans and Pike plays a grieving woman who joins the group after a Native raiding party wipes out her family.

Beach, who is a member of the Saulteaux tribe, grew up near the Dog Creek reserve in rural Manitoba. When he was eight his mother was killed by a drunk driver and a few months later his father drowned. He then moved to Winnipeg to live with his aunt and uncle, and it was there that he fell in love with acting.

The 45-year-old performer has starred in 75 films and TV shows, including *Windtalkers*, *Flags of Our Fathers* and *Suicide Squad*, and says *Hostiles* was one of the most demanding films of his career.

"It was difficult because we shot long hours," says Beach, "and being shackled and riding our horses, after a while it starts messing with your mind. Scott filmed the movie chronologically so we would be feeling these extra emotions leading up to this anticipation of, you know, someone's going to die."

"And I felt that it was kind of creeping up into my family back home because I'd be coming home exhausted and I didn't want to talk to anybody."

Beach believes the film makes a powerful statement about hate, and the types of emotions that can destroy us.

"It's really intense, and I think people are going to come out of the movie looking at their own interpretation of being a prisoner, or how their lives are kind of boxed in and what that means."

—INGRID RANDOJA

PHOTO BY GETTY

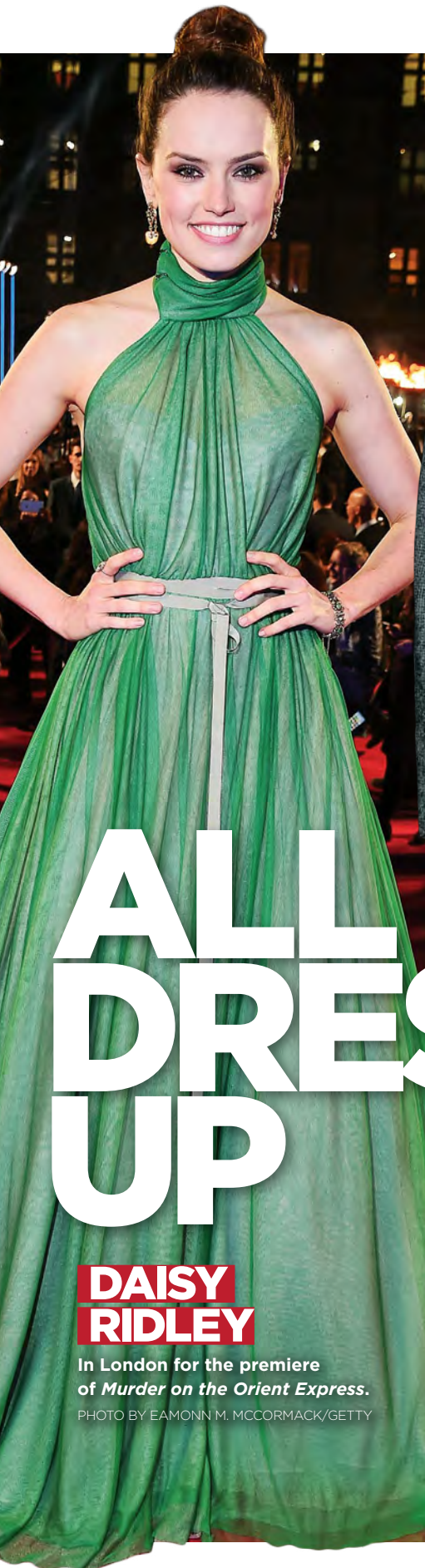


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**DAISY
RIDLEY**

In London for the premiere
of *Murder on the Orient Express*.

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**JIM
BROADBENT**

At the London premiere
of *Paddington 2*.

PHOTO BY DAVE J. HOGAN/GETTY



**ZOE
SALDANA**

In Los Angeles for the
LACMA Art + Film Gala.

PHOTO BY JASON LAVERIS/GETTY

ALL DRESSED UP



**AMY
ADAMS**

In Los Angeles for the
LACMA Art + Film Gala.

PHOTO BY NELSON BARNARD/GETTY



**TIMOTHÉE
CHALAMET**

At the IFP's Gotham Independent
Film Awards in New York.

PHOTO BY CINDY ORD/GETTY



**GAL
GADOT**

At the Hollywood premiere
of *Justice League*.

PHOTO BY BARRY KING/GETTY

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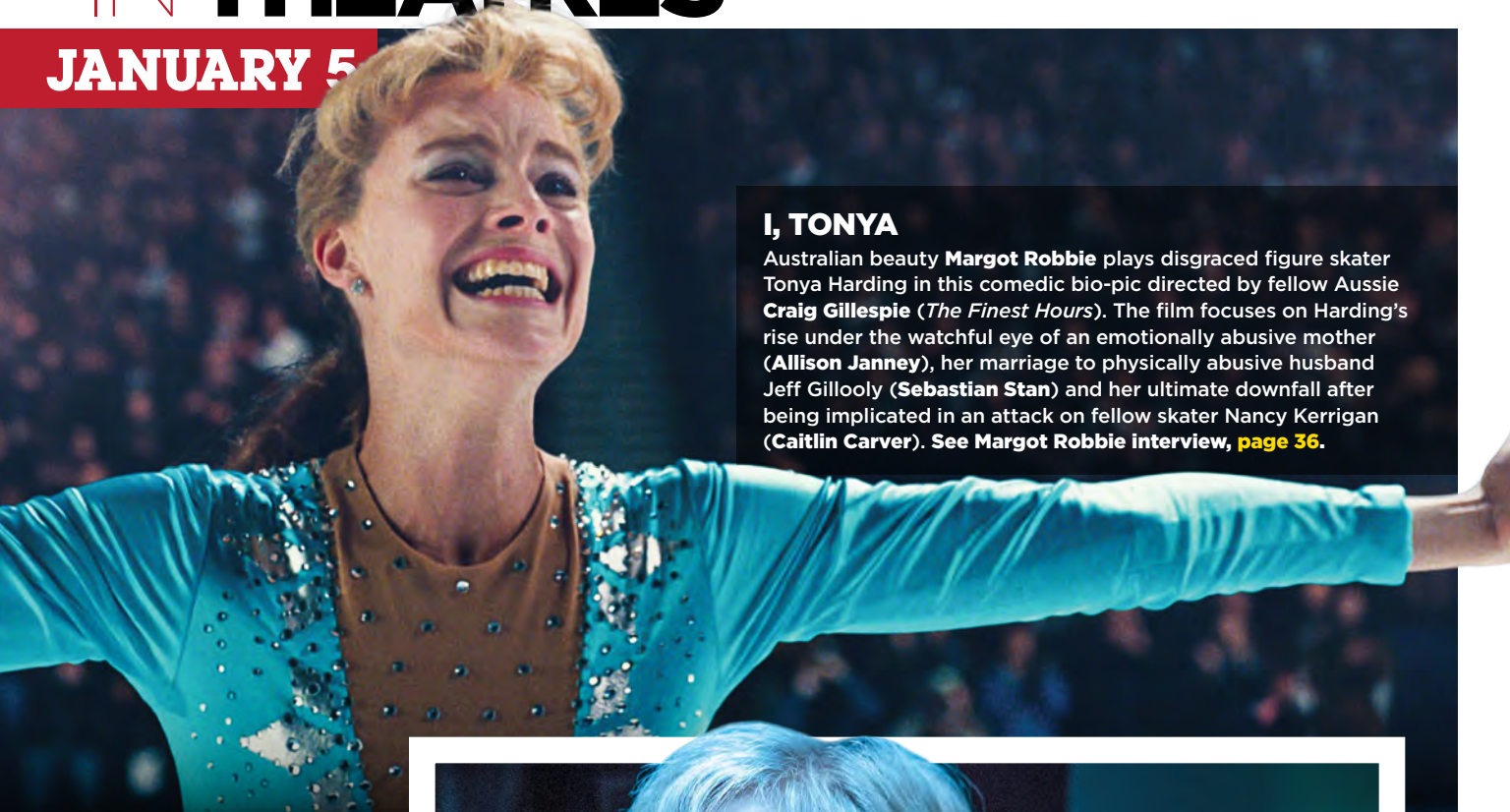
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**GREATNESS
AWAITS**

IN THEATRES

JANUARY 5



I, TONYA

Australian beauty **Margot Robbie** plays disgraced figure skater Tonya Harding in this comedic bio-pic directed by fellow Aussie **Craig Gillespie** (*The Finest Hours*). The film focuses on Harding's rise under the watchful eye of an emotionally abusive mother (**Allison Janney**), her marriage to physically abusive husband Jeff Gillooly (**Sebastian Stan**) and her ultimate downfall after being implicated in an attack on fellow skater Nancy Kerrigan (**Caitlin Carver**). See **Margot Robbie interview**, **page 36**.

INSIDIOUS: THE LAST KEY

Brilliant parapsychologist Dr. Elise Rainier (**Lin Shaye**) is summoned to her childhood home in New Mexico where the family now living there needs her help battling malevolent spirits that have taken up residence. Although this is the fourth film in the *Insidious* franchise, chronologically it's only the second story, picking up where 2015's prequel left off.



Lin Shaye in *Insidious: The Last Key*

JANUARY 12



Paddington 2

PADDINGTON 2

When we last saw accident-prone bear Paddington (voiced by **Ben Whishaw**) he was happily ensconced with the Brown family, headed by parents Henry (**Hugh Bonneville**) and Mary (**Sally Hawkins**). In this sequel, Paddington wants to buy an old picture book for his aunt, but when a washed-up actor (**Hugh Grant**) steals the book Paddington and his family decide to scour London searching for the despicable thief.

PHANTOM THREAD

Please, please change your mind **Daniel Day-Lewis**. The renowned actor says this drama from director **Paul Thomas Anderson** will serve as his final film. In it, Day-Lewis plays fastidious 1950s fashion designer Reynolds Woodcock, whose dresses are desired by London's elite. However, when he falls for the unassuming Alma (**Vicky Krieps**), the restrained designer begins to lose control of his life.



Vera Farmiga and Liam Neeson in *The Commuter*

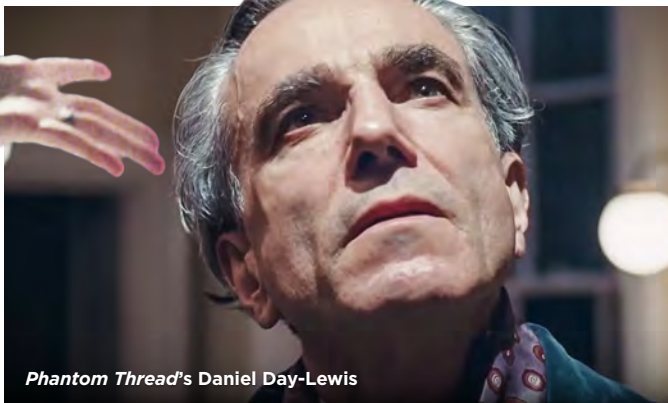
THE COMMUTER

Liam Neeson once again plays a man on a mission. This time Neeson is a former cop who is approached by a mysterious woman (**Vera Farmiga**) on his train ride home. She tells him to figure out which of his fellow commuters is not supposed to be on the train or his family will be killed.

PROUD MARY

Taraji P. Henson plays hitwoman Mary Goodwin, who kills a drug boss and leaves his son, Danny (**Jahi D'Allo Winston**), an orphan. Wracked by guilt she takes Danny in and by doing so puts both their lives in danger.

CONTINUED ►



Phantom Thread's Daniel Day-Lewis

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JANUARY 19

► IN THE FADE

Diane Kruger won the Best Actress award at last year's Cannes Film Festival for her turn as Katja, a German woman whose Kurdish husband (**Numan Acar**) and son (**Rafael Santana**) are killed in a terrorist bombing. While the neo-Nazi perpetrators are brought to justice, Katja believes there are more people involved and goes looking for revenge.



12 Strong's Chris Hemsworth

HOSTILES

It's 1882 and an Army captain (**Christian Bale**) is tasked with taking a dying Cheyenne chief (**Wes Studi**) and his family, including his grown son (**Adam Beach**), back to his tribal homeland. Joining them on the perilous journey is a frontierswoman (**Rosamund Pike**) whose family was killed in a Native raid.

See **Adam Beach** interview, **page 14**.

DEN OF THIEVES

It's cops vs. robbers in this testosterone-fuelled thriller that finds a gang of thieves, led by **Pablo Schreiber**, being hunted by Los Angeles's elite robbery squad, led by **Gerard Butler**. The cast of macho men includes **O'Shea Jackson Jr.**, **50 Cent**, and **Kaiwi Lyman**.

12 STRONG

Following the September 11th attack against the U.S., a team of American Special Forces soldiers and CIA paramilitary officers head to Afghanistan where they join forces with Afghani "horse soldiers" to take on the well-armed Taliban. Starring **Chris Hemsworth**, **Michael Shannon**, **Michael Peña** and **Trevante Rhodes**.

THE FINAL YEAR

This documentary takes us behind the scenes with **President Barack Obama** and his foreign policy team as they race to effect change in their final year in office. We watch as they deal with issues such as global warming, the Syrian conflict and **Donald Trump's** unexpected election.

CONTINUED ►



Gerard Butler in *Den of Thieves*



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MET OPERA

*The Exterminating
Angel* (Adès)

ENCORES: SUN., JAN. 7;
SAT., JAN. 13

Tosca (Puccini)

LIVE: SAT., JAN. 27

NFL SUNDAY NIGHTS

Wild Card Game

SUN., JAN. 7

Divisional Round Game

SUN., JAN. 14

AFC & NFC

Conference Finals

SUN., JAN. 21

NATIONAL THEATRE

Follies

THURS., JAN. 11; SAT., JAN. 20

DOCUMENTARY

The Opera House

SAT., JAN. 13; WED., JAN. 17

FAMILY FAVOURITES

Spiderman: Homecoming

SAT., JAN. 13

The Emoji Movie

SAT., JAN. 20

The LEGO Ninjago Movie

SAT., JAN. 27

ANIME

Fate/Stay Night: Heaven's

Feel - I. Presage Flower

SUN., JAN. 14

PASSPORT TO THE WORLD

*Bolivia: From the
Altiplano to the Amazon*

MON., JAN. 15

LONDON STAGE

OSCAR WILDE SEASON

A Woman of

No Importance

THURS., JAN. 18

BOLSHOI BALLET

Romeo and Juliet

SUN., JAN. 21

EVENTS IN VIP

Spice World

MON., JAN. 22

COMÉDIE-FRANÇAISE

The Misanthrope

WED., JAN. 24

IN THE GALLERY

David Hockney at the

Royal Academy of Arts

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JANUARY 26

▶ MAZE RUNNER: THE DEATH CURE

The final film in the *Maze Runner* trilogy finds Thomas (Dylan O'Brien), Teresa (Kaya Scodelario) and Newt (Thomas Brodie-Sangster) leading the charge to find a cure for the Flare virus. **See Dylan O'Brien interview, page 32.**

FILM STARS DON'T DIE IN LIVERPOOL

Based on actor Peter Turner's memoir, this compelling romantic drama stars Annette Bening as aging film star Gloria Grahame, who, in 1978, falls for young Turner (Jamie Bell) while living in London. The pair eventually breaks up, but three years later the cancer-stricken Grahame calls Turner and asks him to take her to his family home in Liverpool where she can convalesce.

FOREVER MY GIRL

British-born actor Alex Roe plays Liam Page, a Southern American boy who found fame in country music right after ditching his bride-to-be Josie (Jessica Rothe) at the altar and leaving their small town. Eight years later Liam returns home and meets the daughter he knew nothing about.



Annette Bening and Jamie Bell
in *Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool*



Forever My Girl's Alex Roe

THE LEISURE SEEKER

Although John (Donald Sutherland) is suffering from dementia and Ella (Helen Mirren) is living with cancer they will not let their health worries and overly protective children stop them from enjoying life as they head out on a cross-country trip in their beloved RV. **See Donald Sutherland interview, page 28.**

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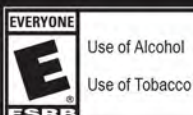
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Donald Sutherland
and Helen Mirren
in *The Leisure Seeker*

The Great ESCAPE

Canadian icon **Donald Sutherland** talks about memory, hurricanes, and the surprisingly pleasant experience of watching his new road movie, ***The Leisure Seeker***

■ BY MARNI WEISZ

Hemingway House is okay, I assure Donald Sutherland, having just read an update online earlier that morning.

His home in Miami Beach is okay too, he tells me, as we sit down to discuss his movie *The Leisure Seeker* at the Toronto International Film Festival.

The day before our interview, and just two days after the film that follows senior couple Ella and John (Sutherland and Helen Mirren) on one last road trip down the Florida coast premiered in Toronto, Hurricane Irma beat down on much of the same territory covered in the film — lovely long roads, pristine beaches, and the couple's ultimate destination, Ernest Hemingway's old house on Key West.

There was nothing Sutherland — who, at 82, is still an imposing figure, both physically and intellectually — could do but watch as the second of three massive hurricanes to hit the area in less than a month (preceded by Harvey, followed by Maria) threatened to destroy not only his home but many of the places he'd spent months filming *The Leisure Seeker* in 2016. Watch, and feel anger.

But anger at what, or whom?

"Just anger, it's evident, you know. That hurricane existed because the water tem-

perature increased by one degree," he says, spitting mad. "And the water temperature increased by one degree because fools and self-serving, capitalist motivated pieces of crap are running [he pauses]. Scott Pruitt, how dare he?" Sutherland demands of the Trump administration's Environmental Protection Agency head honcho who doesn't believe human activity is driving climate change.

"So anger," continues Sutherland. He has never shied away from talking politics.

The proudly Canadian actor (he was born in New Brunswick and moved to Nova Scotia as a teen) was married to Shirley Douglas, the activist daughter of Saskatchewan premiere and father of Canada's universal healthcare system Tommy Douglas in the late 1960s. He also dated Jane Fonda during her Hanoi Jane years and joined her on her anti-war F.T.A. tour of Asia during the Vietnam War. As recently as 2015 Sutherland used the premiere of *Forsaken* — a Western in which he co-starred with his son Kiefer Sutherland — to beg fellow Canadians not to vote for Stephen Harper in the following month's federal election.

"Not that hurricanes don't have to happen," Sutherland continues of Irma, "but hurricanes that bad are that bad because the water temperature is increased, and the water temperature is increased because

CONTINUED ►

THE LEISURE SEEKER HITS THEATRES JANUARY 26TH



Go to CINEPLEX.COM/CANADIANACTORS for a ranking of our favourite Canadian actors working today.

► a huge piece of Antarctica has fallen into the ocean.”

The damage could have been even worse, though, and we’re both relieved not to be talking about a movie shot in a place that no longer exists.

The Leisure Seeker begins as Ella and John give their adult children (Janel Moloney, Christian McKay) the slip. When the kids show up for a celebration at their parents’ home they discover that mom and dad have quietly taken off in the family RV, the *Leisure Seeker*. The kids are frantic. Ella has cancer and should be in treatment and John, a Hemingway scholar and university professor, is suffering from dementia. But sick of the doctors and the rules, the couple craves one last adventure.

“I just loved it,” says Sutherland of the finished film, which was directed by Italian director Paolo Virzi. He’d just seen it for the first time with two of his kids, daughter Rachel and son Rossif, at the Toronto premiere. The star of films ranging from Robert Altman’s *M*A*S*H* to Federico Fellini’s *Casanova* to the *Hunger Games* franchise says he rarely watches his own movies and has been known to sneak out of theatres on his hands and knees when he’s uncomfortable with his performance. Not this time.

“When I looked at him I believed him,” he says of John. “I believed him everywhere. Everything he did, I believed him. And I suppose I was worried that there might be something that would be extreme or wrong, but there wasn’t.”

Playing a character with dementia is a special kind of challenge. Too far one way or

the other and your performance can come off as silly or coarse. But Sutherland says that, at his age, it wasn’t really that hard.

“I have friends who have dementia, my mother had dementia, my accountant who died just after we finished the film had Alzheimer’s and I spent some time with him,” he says. “Mostly, I worked from the other side. I didn’t work from how they were. I worked from how caregivers approached it. I went to organizations like Pines of Sarasota.... So it was kind of reverse engineering. And then I just let him be and let my imagination and whatever knowledge I had, let him incorporate that.”

Sutherland also evokes the great Canadian architect Arthur Erickson who worked on the home he and his third and current wife, French-Canadian actor Francine Racette, still maintain in Georgeville, Quebec. “He had dementia, and finally Alzheimer’s was taking over, but he drove to the house in the country. And he struggled with words and there were moments of incredible lucidity and then...” Sutherland drifts off, indicating Erickson’s waning awareness.

In the film, one of the ways Ella tries to rekindle John’s memories is to show him slides from previous trips at each stop along their journey. One slide shows a young Donald Sutherland holding up a baby. It doesn’t look like Photoshop.

“That was Roeg. My son, Roeg,” the actor says with delight, reveling in an old memory of his own. “They must have gone to Francine.”

Marni Weisz is the editor of Cineplex Magazine.



TOGETHER AGAIN

The Leisure Seeker isn’t the first time Donald Sutherland and Helen Mirren have played husband and wife.

That happened 28 years ago in the 1990 Canadian co-production *Bethune: The Making of a Hero* (pictured above) in which Sutherland played Canadian surgeon Norman Bethune, who brought modern medicine to rural villages in China and was a devoted Communist. Mirren played his long-suffering wife, Frances Penny Bethune.

It was the third time Sutherland had played Bethune, after a 1970s episode of TV’s *Witness to Yesterday* and the 1977 made-for-TV movie, *Bethune*. —MW



EVERY MAZE HAS AN END

MAZE RUNNER THE DEATH CURE

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SHANNY PEPPER WILLY PRUITT AND PATRICIA CLARKSON "P" JOHN PARRANO "P" SAKUNA MALIKOVIC-GRAYS "G" DAN FARMACHIAN "G" PAUL HARRIS "G" "THE HANDEL" HARRIS "G" JESSICA SYDIA PARRIS "G" JESSICA L.S. NOWLIN "G" LISA WILLIAMS EDUARDO SAMARCA "G" LUCIANO DI ROMANVITTO "G" DANIEL M. SULLIVAN
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#DEATHCURE

JANUARY 26

STRONG FINISH

Making a dystopian trilogy is always going to take a toll on an actor. But for **Dylan O'Brien**, the star of the *Maze Runner* movies, that toll was particularly high. Here the young actor talks about finding the strength to complete ***Maze Runner: The Death Cure*** after a bad accident on the film's B.C. set and why he's so excited about this final film ■ BY BOB STRAUSS

Maze Runner: The Death Cure finally comes out this month.

It almost didn't. Ever. At all.

While the third chapter in the movie franchise based on James Dashner's dystopian Young Adult novels was film-

ing in the B.C. interior in March of 2016, its star Dylan O'Brien was severely injured when he accidentally got pulled off of a moving vehicle, then hit by another one. The now 26-year-old actor suffered a concussion and enough facial damage to require reconstructive surgery. So, naturally, there were questions whether the movie could be finished, and whether O'Brien would ever be able to work again.

Happily, the answer to both questions is a resounding yes. The tall, handsome actor recovered well enough to jump into another action movie, this past fall's *American Assassin*, and appear in a few episodes of the final season of *Teen Wolf*, the TV series that made him a Hollywood heartthrob, before re-teaming with *Maze Runner* director Wes Ball and the cast and crew (nearly a year after that horrible day) to complete *The Death Cure*.

"It meant a lot to finish," O'Brien says sincerely, looking none the worse for wear during an interview in Los Angeles. "It's something that was always a big thing for me and has meant a lot to me. Also, coming off of that accident, it was a big deal to finish in a very personal way for me. I think we made something great, the franchise means a lot to all of us, so we wanted to finish it on the best note we could."

In 2014's *The Maze Runner*, O'Brien's character Thomas led his friends out of The Glade, a kind of outdoor prison for memory-impaired young people. The second movie, *The Scorch Trials*, showed them the devastated outside world from which they'd been mysteriously plucked. Now, in *Death Cure*, Thomas and the other survivors try to break into a fortified district where, with hope, they can recover their full memories and find out exactly what happened and why they've been so terribly manipulated by the organization known as WCKD.

Death Cure includes a good deal of high-speed action involving ATVs, trains and heli-ships, in scenes shot both before and after the accident. The actor has admitted to suffering doubts and even panic attacks since that terrible day and praised, among others, his girlfriend Britt Robertson (the actors met while making the 2012 romantic comedy *The First Time*) for providing the emotional support that got him through.

Still, a generally chill kind of guy, O'Brien remains rattled by the accident.

"I'm not going to go into detail about it because it's my business," he says, politely but firmly. "It happened in a public way, but I just don't think it's my job to report on it. But it was a stunt gone wrong and it was a really scary incident. That's really all I can say. I don't feel comfortable diving into the logistics."

O'Brien felt comfortable enough to do many of his own stunts when production resumed. They had to be carefully choreographed and rehearsed in those post-recovery months, of course, and

CONTINUED ►





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MAZE RUNNER: THE DEATH CURE
HITS THEATRES JANUARY 26TH



Dylan O'Brien (left) leads his crew in *Maze Runner: The Death Cure*



Go to **CINEPLEX.COM/MOVIEDYSTOPIAS** for a look at cinematic depictions of dystopias.

▶ protecting the actor's face has become a paramount concern. But none of that should have any impact on the threequel's thrills, he reports.

"We wanted to go out and try to make this the best movie of the three, and I think we did make a really good movie," O'Brien says. "I'm excited about how it came out. Wes is one of the most talented directors out there right now and I'm always glad to see what he does with it after we put it in his hands. It's a great crew and cast too, always. And we've got Walton Goggins in this one! He's such a great actor and great dude.

"So yeah, it's exciting and good, an emotional and intense last chapter."

Wait, did he say last chapter? Considering how recent film franchises from *Harry Potter* to *Hunger Games* have drawn out their final source novels into two movies or more (*The Hobbit* made three out of one book!), that doesn't sound like standard Hollywood operating procedure. But O'Brien insists *Death Cure* is it for *Maze Runner*, and while he certainly has good personal reasons to be done with the series, he also sounds proud that they're not forcing devoted fans to wait, and buy more tickets, to get the story's conclusion.

"It's the completion, from the third book, and we had always planned on doing it in just three movies," O'Brien attests (Dashner did write two prequel novels after the original trilogy). "So this is the final installment."

Good for them. But where does that leave O'Brien? With his TV show and film franchise both over, the actor has expressed relief that his regular work commitments are, at least for the moment, a thing of the past. He's also

indicated that he's going to be choosier about acting jobs. And the guy could certainly use a few laughs. In fact, if you really want some insight into what he'd like to be doing now, go back to his comedy roots.

Back when he was a high schooler in the Los Angeles suburb of Hermosa Beach, O'Brien, whose dad was a cameraman, started making goofy videos of himself lip-synching, jumping around, responding poorly to girls' rejections and generally making a fool of himself. They were broad and energetic and kind of adorable, led to his first fan following (folks are still re-cutting his "greatest hits" on YouTube) and eventually resulted in the professional acting career. O'Brien speaks as fondly of that time as of anything he's accomplished since, and while he's not about to give up his day job, he'd clearly like more work along the lines of his first creative efforts.

"I started making my little shorts when I was in high school," says O'Brien, who hoped at the time to go to film school. "That's what eventually led to this, which is really cool. But I haven't made any videos in a long time, literally since I started working. Obviously, I've planned on getting back into that side of things. I'd love to direct one day, always wanted to make my own stuff down the road. So maybe a precursor to all that will be another little short."

While nobody's earned the right to stop and smell the roses as much as Dylan O'Brien, here's hoping he brings a camera along with him as he does. 

Bob Strauss lives in L.A. where he writes about movies and filmmakers.

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Who would have thought the story of U.S. Olympic skater Tonya Harding, her rival Nancy Kerrigan, and that famous whack across the knee could be made into a rollicking comedy?

Margot Robbie and the team behind *I, Tonya*, that's who. Here Robbie talks about meeting Harding, the film's unconventional approach and her own love of playing ice hockey

■ BY MARNI WEISZ

In 1994 Tonya Harding was on top of the world. Sort of. She and her United States Figure Skating teammate Nancy Kerrigan were heading to Lillehammer to square off at the Winter Olympics. Then something scandalous happened. Someone bashed Kerrigan in the knee with a metal pole and ran. All signs pointed to Harding's camp, including her then ex-husband Jeff Gillooly and some of his sketchy friends.

But Harding, a rough-around-the-edges Portland girl, had never fit into figure skating's prim and pinned society, even before "the incident." Afterward, she spent decades trying to make the best of her notoriety with celebrity boxing matches and low-level TV appearances.

Of course, if you're over the age of 30 you remember all this.

Margot Robbie doesn't.

"I'd never heard the name Tonya Harding before, not that I had recalled," says the 27-year-old Australian actor during an interview at the Toronto International Film Festival where her movie about Harding, *I, Tonya*, earned raves and was the runner-up for the People's Choice Award. "When I read the script I thought it was complete fiction and thought, wow, this writer's so quirky and crazy, I love it, and I found out it was all true and I was like, oh my goodness, this is incredible."

Not only does Robbie star as Harding, she also co-produced. And even though she'd never heard of Harding, she does have a bit of cred on the ice. When she first moved to America Robbie briefly played for a recreational hockey team called the Assassins.

Did playing hockey help you get the role?

No, I mean, I did really talk up my skating. I was like, 'I was on an ice hockey team, I'm a really good skater, I'll be fine playing this role,' and then afterwards admitted, 'Look, my hockey was better than my skating.

Really I was just running on the ice in a pair of skates and I did not grow up skating, I don't really know how to skate properly but I'm sure I'll be fine, I pick things up really quickly.' And then it turns out figure skating is so much harder than anyone could ever imagine, but especially me, so I had to do a lot of training.

This movie has a really screwball tone; it almost felt like a Coen Brothers comedy. Was that evident in Steven Rogers' script, or was it the doing of director Craig Gillespie?

It was there on the page. There were a number of different ways we could have gone with the movie and that's why picking our director was such a huge decision. When we were having those first meetings with directors I said I personally feel like the tone should be a mix between *Silver Linings Playbook* and *Fargo*, and Craig is one of those very rare directors that I think can pull off that balance between the comedy and the tragedy of a **CONTINUED ▶**

I, TONYA
HITS THEATRES
JANUARY 5TH



Margot Robbie (centre), flanked by Sebastian Stan and Julianne Nicholson

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► situation but in a subtle way without ever making fun of the people that are in the scenario. No matter how absurd the scenario got he took them totally seriously and I think that's why he can achieve that tone that so few people can.

You met Tonya Harding. What can you tell me about that encounter?

It was just once, but we've been texting since. She's really, really sweet. I think people would be surprised to see that side of her. She's a mom. She loves her kid. All she wanted to do was talk about her kid and show me pictures of her kid. She loves her husband.... It's really nice to see that she has found that peace and happiness in her life with her husband and kid. It was like an emotional closure to know she's okay.

There's a tongue-in-cheek intro to the movie that says it's based on interviews with Harding and Gillooly [played by Sebastian Stan], but then implies you can't trust those interviews. How involved was Harding with this project?

Our writer Steven tracked her down and had like a six-hour interview with her, just one-on-one, chatting in a very casual way, and then he realized that he could not possibly tell this story without knowing Jeff's side of the story. It was very clear that he had just heard one side of the story and he was very curious to hear the other. So he tracked down Jeff and did the same thing, had a big, long interview and Jeff really opened up to him as well, and he based the script off those two contradictory interviews 'cause obviously they both said

things completely differently and thus was the unconventional structure of our film.

Beyond those interviews, what was her involvement?

She sold her life rights. So Steven had her life rights, had done that interview, beyond that she had no say in what the script was. She didn't see the script until we were in pre-production and we'd all kind of done what needed to be done; then she read the script. She didn't have an opportunity to alter anything, she's not a consultant on the movie, she never came to set. So other than when Craig and I flew to Portland to meet with her, that's the only face time we had in person and a few text messages here and there for her to just wish us luck and things like that, and then she saw it a week ago and she was really great about it.

Allison Janney is hilarious as Harding's awful mother. Was it hard to keep a straight face acting opposite that performance?

Yeah. I definitely laughed a lot. We'd often yell cut and then we'd both burst out laughing because we'd just said or done the most ridiculous thing. That line when she comes on the first date with Jeff and I and you get to the end....in one of the takes we're sitting there and it got to the end of the scene and that's when she was like, 'You two f--k yet?' And that's not in the script and I felt my face grow bright red and he just almost choked on his food, those reactions are so genuine, it was just perfect and we were like, 'Oh god that's how we have to end the scene.'

If you hadn't even heard of Harding, how did you tap into what a momentous event this was in sports history?

The internet really. There's so many documentaries, there's a documentary made about Tonya when she was 15, well before any of this happened. There's a line in it, she has braces and short hair and she was like, 'I want to make it to the Olympics one day,' and then you can watch all the footage of her going to the Olympics and things not working out, then the documentaries later in life even after that. There's footage from during the incident, before the incident, after the incident, when she's older, when she's younger. There's so much footage, it was an amazing resource.

Are you still playing hockey?

No, because when I'm under contract I'm not allowed to play ice hockey and I'm almost always under contract because I'm a very, very lucky actor who gets to work almost all the time, so I don't get to play.

Did you have a particular position?

Generally right wing but this is an amateur team, there was nothing official about it.

It's funny, from the outside people would probably guess that you were the figure skater and Harding was the hockey player.

You would think so, maybe, yeah. But you've gotta be really tough to figure skate. I mean, I was in far less pain playing ice hockey than I ever was figure skating. 📺

Marni Weisz is the editor of Cineplex Magazine.



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FRANCHISE

FAVES

Solo: A Star Wars Story

The second *Star Wars* anthology film, following *Rogue One*, had a rocky road during production as original directors Christopher Miller and Phil Lord (*The LEGO Movie*) were fired during filming and replaced with Ron Howard. However, that doesn't dampen our enthusiasm for this Space Western that casts Alden Ehrenreich as the young smuggler Han Solo, who meets Wookiee Chewbacca (Joonas Suotamo) and a rogue named Lando Calrissian (Donald Glover), and gets his hands on an awesome space ship called the Millennium Falcon. Woody Harrelson plays Solo's mentor and Emilia Clarke his love interest.

**WHY WE'RE
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young faces

OPENS
May 25

see old franchise friends? Interested in some
Looking for something new? We've got it all in
flicks ■ BY INGRID RANDOJA



Ocean's 8

The *Ocean's* trilogy of heist films gets a fourth installment; an all-female spinoff starring Sandra Bullock as Debbie Ocean, the estranged sister of Danny Ocean (George Clooney), who assembles a team of larcenous ladies to pull off a job during the annual Met Gala. The deliciously diverse cast includes Cate Blanchett, Helena Bonham Carter, Rihanna, Mindy Kaling, Anne Hathaway, Sarah Paulson and Awkwafina.

**WHY WE'RE
EXCITED**
Women steal
the show
OPENS
June 8

Mission: Impossible 6

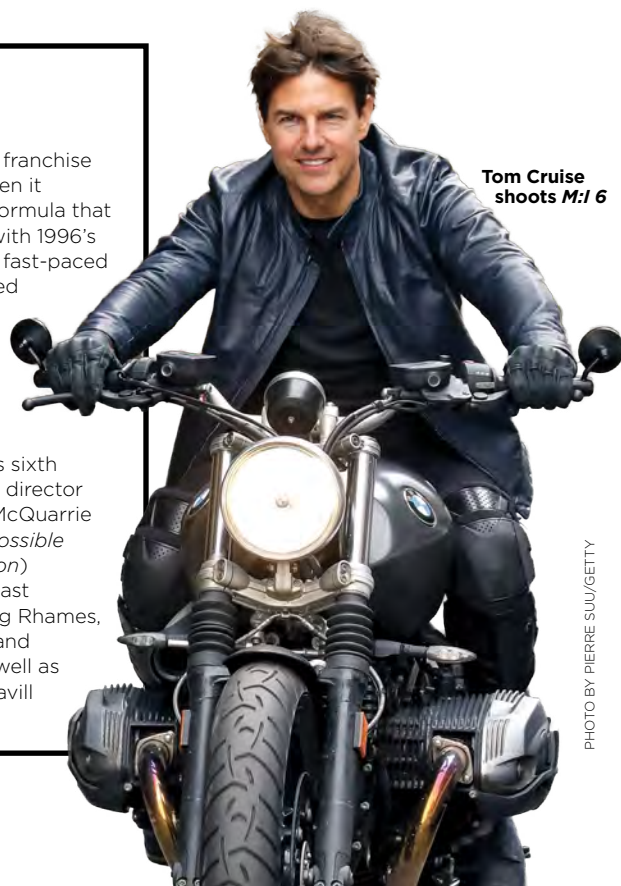
The *Mission: Impossible* franchise is the gold standard when it comes to sticking to a formula that works. Since its debut with 1996's *Mission: Impossible*, the fast-paced spy series has showcased

Tom Cruise at his risky business best, allowing the megastar to perform many of his own breathtaking stunts. We expect more of the same in this sixth pic that welcomes back director

Christopher McQuarrie (*Mission: Impossible – Rogue Nation*) and familiar cast members Ving Rhames, Simon Pegg and

Michelle Monaghan, as well as series newbies Henry Cavill and Angela Bassett.

**WHY WE'RE
EXCITED**
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July 27



**Tom Cruise
shoots M:1 6**

PHOTO BY PIERRE SUU/GETTY

STELLAR

SUPERHEROES

Black Panther

Dominated by white men in costumes, Marvel's Cinematic Universe finally embraces a predominately black cast led by Chadwick Boseman reprising his role of Prince T'Challa, a.k.a. Black Panther, after his striking debut in *Captain America: Civil War*. Here, we follow T'Challa as he returns to his hidden African homeland of Wakanda to become king and deal with the villainous Erik Killmonger (Michael B. Jordan) who blames T'Challa for the death of his family. Co-starring Lupita Nyong'o, Andy Serkis, Danai Gurira, Daniel Kaluuya and Angela Bassett.

WHY WE'RE EXCITED
New perspective
OPENS
February 16

the villainous Erik Killmonger (Michael B. Jordan) who blames T'Challa for the death of his family. Co-starring Lupita Nyong'o, Andy Serkis, Danai Gurira, Daniel Kaluuya and Angela Bassett.

Avengers: Infinity War

Parking spots must be at a premium on the set of *Avengers: Infinity War* as the already overflowing Avengers cast teams with the fun-loving Guardians of the Galaxy gang for the first of the two-part *Infinity War* storyline that finds galactic baddie Thanos (Josh Brolin) finally heading to Earth to recover the six

Infinity Stones that have been cleverly employed in previous Marvel movies. By all accounts the impressive cast of Hollywood A-listers (too numerous to

mention here) are cool with sharing screen time in order for Marvel to pull off this star-studded pic.

WHY WE'RE EXCITED
Guardians join the fun
OPENS
May 4



Deadpool 2

Goody-goody superheroes are so blasé; potty-mouthed, nihilistic antiheroes are where it's at. The worldwide success of 2016's *Deadpool* paved the way for this sequel that sees Ryan Reynolds reprising his role of the physically scarred, impossible to kill Deadpool, and introduces mutants Cable (Josh Brolin) and Domino (Zazie Beetz), who join Deadpool in the black-ops squad X-Force. T.J. Miller returns as Deadpool's sarcastic buddy Weasel, and Brianna Hildebrand is back as goth mutant Negasonic Teenage Warhead.

WHY WE'RE EXCITED
Deadpool does dirty best
OPENS
June 1





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REIMANGININGS

A Star Is Born

Bradley Cooper co-wrote, stars in and makes his directorial debut with *A Star Is Born*. This will be the fourth version of the film — the most recent incarnation was Barbra Streisand and Kris Kristofferson's 1976 version. The story revolves around aging, alcoholic singer Jackson Maine (Cooper), who nurtures the career of up-and-coming singer Ally, played by Lady Gaga (who goes by her given name Stefani Germanotta for the project). Cooper and Germanotta's screen test reportedly showed instant chemistry, and Warner Bros. is so happy with the end result that the film's release date was moved up from September to May.

WHY WE'RE EXCITED
Cooper, Gaga
streeeeetch
OPENS
May 18

Tomb Raider

Angelina Jolie shot to superstardom when she stepped into the hiking boots and tank top of videogame action hero Lara Croft in the original *Tomb Raider* movie. Now it's Oscar-winner Alicia Vikander who is out to show she can both act and kick butt as the adventure-seeking aristocrat who heads out on a dangerous archaeological mission to clear her deceased father's (Dominic West) name. Norwegian filmmaker Roar Uthaug (*The Wave*) directs.

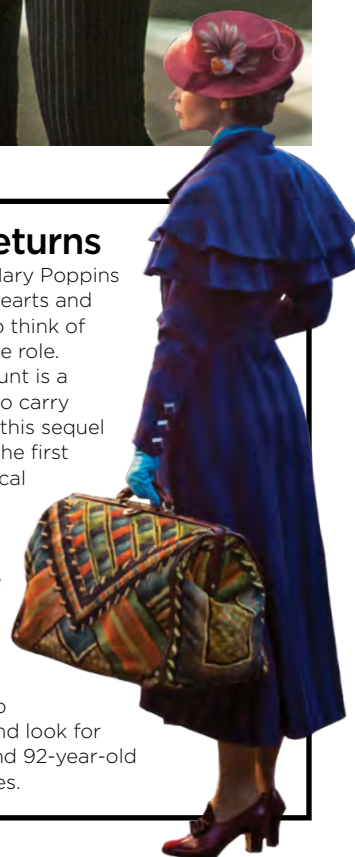
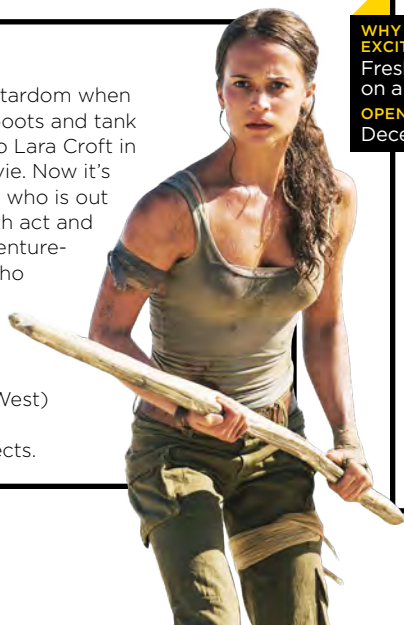
WHY WE'RE EXCITED
She's got game
OPENS
March 16

Mary Poppins Returns

Julie Andrews' portrayal of Mary Poppins holds a special place in our hearts and

WHY WE'RE EXCITED
Fresh take on a classic
OPENS
December 25

it seems strange to think of another actor in the role. That said, Emily Blunt is a wonderful choice to carry Mary's umbrella in this sequel set 25 years after the first film. The story sees the magical Mary Poppins returning to help the now grown Michael Banks (Ben Whishaw) and his three children through a difficult time. Lin-Manuel Miranda plays Jack the lamplighter (he is also writing songs for the musical), Meryl Streep plays Mary's cousin, Topsy, and look for 91-year-old Dick Van Dyke and 92-year-old Angela Lansbury in small roles.



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FRESH

& NEW

Isle of Dogs

WHY WE'RE
EXCITED

Wes Anderson
at his
strangest

OPENS
March 23

Director Wes Anderson showed his love for stop-motion animation with 2009's *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and he returns to the genre with this tale set in a dystopian Japan where all dogs, thought to carry a deadly disease, are quarantined on an island. However, that doesn't stop a boy named Atari (Koyu Rankin) from travelling to the isle in search of his dog, Spots (Liev Schreiber). Anderson assembles an all-star cast, including Scarlett Johansson, Bryan Cranston, Bill Murray, Tilda Swinton, Edward Norton and Jeff Goldblum, to bring what is sure to be a moving, and hilarious, tale to life.

First Man

Damien Chazelle's first film after winning the Best Director Oscar for *La La Land* is this bio-pic of astronaut Neil Armstrong, who on July 20th, 1969, became the first human to walk on the moon. Chazelle cast a friendly face to play Armstrong; his *La La Land* star Ryan Gosling. The film will focus on Armstrong's

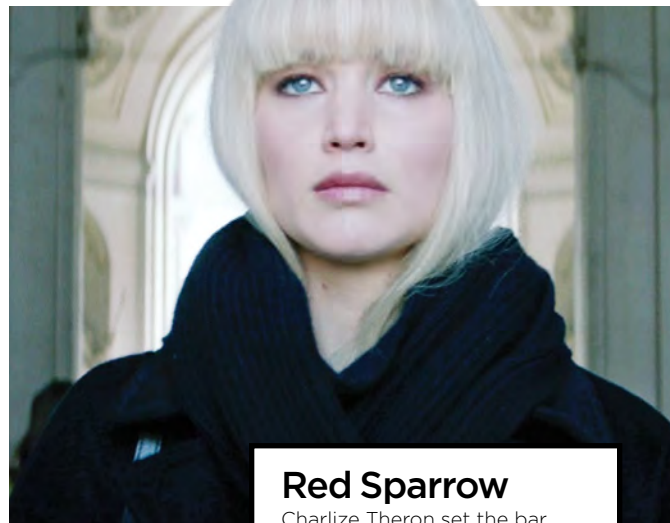
WHY WE'RE
EXCITED

Chazelle
and Gosling
reunite

OPENS
October 12

work at NASA as he prepares for the most dangerous journey. Claire Foy plays Armstrong's wife Janet, while Corey Stoll takes

on the role of Armstrong's fellow Apollo 11 astronaut, Buzz Aldrin.



Red Sparrow

Charlize Theron set the bar high with her turn as a sexy spy in last year's *Atomic Blonde*. Now Jennifer Lawrence tackles her first spy role in this adaptation of Jason Matthews' acclaimed espionage novel, *Red Sparrow*. *Hunger Games*: *Mockingjay* director Francis Lawrence helps the story that finds inexperienced Moscow-based CIA agent Nathaniel Nash (Joel Edgerton) falling in love with Russian spy and seductress Dominika "Red Sparrow" Egorova (Lawrence).

WHY WE'RE
EXCITED

J. Law goes
undercover

OPENS
March 2

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Charming **CHARADE**

Cary Grant did not want to work with Audrey Hepburn.

It wasn't personal. The 59-year-old actor admired Hepburn, but when director Stanley Donen offered him the romantic male lead in *Charade* (1963) opposite 33-year-old Hepburn he turned it down. He felt their 26-year age difference was too great and audiences would find it unseemly.

He eventually agreed to star with the condition screenwriter Peter Stone address the issue by changing the script so Hepburn takes the lead in the couple's budding romance.

The result is a topsy-turvy crime thriller set in Paris that casts Hepburn as Reggie Lampert, whose dead husband stole gold bars during World War II. Pursued by three thugs who believe Reggie knows where the gold is hidden, she enlists the help of the charming Peter Joshua (Grant) to hunt for the loot.

Grant and Hepburn display wonderful chemistry in the effervescent pic that pays homage to Hitchcock with its plot twists, witty dialogue and the teaming of two radiant stars.

—INGRID RANDOJA

Charade
screens as part of
Cineplex's Classic Films
series on January 28th
and 31st. Go to
Cineplex.com/Events
for times and
locations.



ONLY THE BRAVE

BUY IT JANUARY 23

When a massive blaze threatens the town of Prescott, Arizona, the elite Granite Mountain Hotshot firefighters, led by Eric Marsh (**Josh Brolin**), answer the call. Based on 2013's deadly Yarnell Hill inferno.



DADDY'S HOME 2

BUY IT JANUARY 3

The sequel to *Daddy's Home* finds Brad (**Will Ferrell**) and Dusty (**Mark Wahlberg**) defending their parenting skills when their respective dads — **John Lithgow**, **Mel Gibson** — come for a holiday visit.



JIGSAW

BUY IT JANUARY 16

The *Saw* horror franchise is rebooted after a seven-year hiatus with this installment that finds five people forced to play deadly games inside a barn while a police detective (**Callum Keith Rennie**) investigates murders that could be the work of the presumed dead serial killer, Jigsaw.



SUBURBICON

BUY IT JANUARY 23

Director **George Clooney** digs into the ugly corners of 1950s America with this dark dramedy starring **Matt Damon** as a man who has his wife murdered for the insurance claim only to have the killers come back for him. Look for **Julianne Moore** in the double role of the wife and her sister.



PROFESSOR MARSTON AND THE WONDER WOMEN

BUY IT OR RENT IT JANUARY 30

This fascinating bio-pic of Wonder Woman creator William Moulton Marston (**Luke Evans**) reveals a man whose provocative personal life — he lived with his wife (**Rebecca Hall**) and mistress (**Bella Heathcote**), and dabbled in bondage — seeped into the pages of the Wonder Woman comic.

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FINALLY...

ROLL CREDITS

One of the world's greatest actors takes his final bow.

Daniel Day-Lewis makes his final film appearance in director Paul Thomas Anderson's *Phantom Thread* this month, playing 1950s fashion designer Reynolds Woodcock (seen above).

In June, the 60-year-old announced this would be his last film, but to those familiar with the three-time Oscar winner, who spends years preparing for roles and stays in character while shooting, the announcement came as no surprise. In a 2007 *Telegraph* profile the actor foreshadowed his screen exit when he spoke of the toll acting takes on him.

"The last day of shooting is surreal. Your mind, your body, your spirit are not prepared to accept that this experience is coming to an end. You've devoted so much of your time to unleashing, in an unconscious way, some sort of spiritual turmoil, and even if it's uncomfortable, no part of you wishes to leave that character behind. The sense of bereavement is such that it can take years before you can put it to rest." —INGRID RANDOJA



Daniel Day-Lewis in his Oscar-winning roles, clockwise from top: *My Left Foot*'s Christy Brown, *Lincoln*'s Abraham Lincoln and *There Will Be Blood*'s Daniel Plainview

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